Correspondence of the Charleston Mercury. Santa Fe, New Mexico. Feb. 16, 1847. Battles of Ca. ala, L'Embuda, and Storming of the Pueblos by the U. S. Forces under Col Price.

MR. EDITOR-A short time since I addressed to you a hasty communication giving a summary of our affairs here. should not have sent it, had I known that another opportunity would so soon present itself. I propose to give you a brief account of the late attempt at revolution in this country. About the middle of January last, Gov. Bent and other Americans were on a visit to the valley of Taos, nor h of this place, which contains a population of about 12,000 souls, Indians and Mexicans. The inhabitants suddenly rose and massacred the Governor and other Americans, scalping them, &c. One man (Mr. Leil) was scalped alive, and driven through the streets in a state of nudity until death relieved him .-Col. Price, who commands in this department, immediately ordered in, to head-quarters, all detachments in the neighborhood; but without waiting for them to arrive, pushed on with 360 men and four pieces of artillery (howitzers) to a pass called Canada, 25 miles from this place, where the enemy showed themselves in force,-numbering about 1,000 Mexicans and Indians. After a sharp engagement, the enemy retreated with the loss of their leader and 30 or 40 killed and wounded. tur loss was 8 or 9 killed and wounded. The artillery under Lieut. Dyer, U. S. A. suffered the most .-The Colonel pushed on to L'Embuda, 15 or 20 miles beyond, where the enemy determined to make another stand. In the meantime Capt. Burgwin with his Company of dragoons, on foot, had arrived. (The other Company was ordered to remain in Santa Fe, which was threatened with an attack from the Moro) Colonel P gave Capt. Burgwin, who was second in command, 180 men, and ordered him to drive the enemy from this pass, which in some places was not ten feet broad, and on either side precipitous mountains, covered with cedar and large rocks. Capt. B performed this service in the most gallant and effectual manner, daiving the enemy before him until they made a preciptate retreat. The enemy, who numbered about 600, lost 20 killed-these were counted-wounded not known. On the side of the Americans one killed, one wounded. This was on the 29th of January. The Indians and Mexicans after this retreated to their stronghold, which they boasted had not been taken by an enemy for 200 years. The name of the town, (an Indian one) is Pueblos de Taous The U.S forces appeared before it on the 3rd of Febuary, and bombarded their houses for some time but put off the assault until next day. The town after a reconnoisance, was found to be very strong, particularly the church, which was surrounded by a wall about breast-high, loop-holes were cut in the walls and in the church, which was filled by the enemy, to the number of about 800, or rather part of these at first lined the loopholes of the outer wall and adjacent buildings, thus enabling them to pour a destructive fire upon all who might approach .-The artillery played upon the wall and church with but little effect, the balls not penetrating at 200 yards more than onethird of the thickness, (three and a half feet.)
Col Price now order a general charge upon the works, holding back a small reserve.—

they, with a large majority of the citizens, fled to the country. The city is capable of a good defence. They have said forts on all sides, from the church, the adjacent that Captain Burgwin, of the U.S. Dragoons fell mortally wounded by a rifle ball in his right breast, while animating his men and pointing out the best station for them. His men were cut down on all sides, bullets and arrows were continually whistling and buzzing through the ranks. After some hours fighing our troops succeeded in firing the roof of the church from the outside, and holes were cut in the walls, through which shells were thrown by hand. The enemy finding the place too hot for them made a retreat through a side door, where they were met by a party stationed there to cut them off. They were shot down without mercyabout 60 were killed in this way. During this time, however, they continued a discharge of guns and arrows. The main body retreated to two pyramidal edifices, 7 stories high, the only ingress to which is through a small hole in the tops of the houses-the walls of immense thickness. (vide, Gregg's "Commerce of Prairies" for description.) They now raised sevent white flags, which were shot down as soon as raised, by our marksmen. Col. Price finally concluded a peace with them, after stipulating that the ringleaders should be given up. They delivered up the principal one. Montoya, who was next day hung in Don Fernando. Our loss in the storming of the Puehlos, was 12 killed and 48 wounded. Of this number 8 of the killed were dragoons, and of the wounded 19 were dragoons, thus exhibiting a loss of 27 killed and wounded, in a company of 65 men. Do you recollect a greater proportional loss in any of Gen. Taylor's hard fought battles? The loss of the enemy 150 killed-wounded not known. The Rio Abajo, or lower country, kept quiet during these fights. However, at the Moro, which is 90 miles East of this and about the same distance from Taos, the people rose and inhumanly butchered all Americans there. One American, (to show what degraded ruffians the Mexicans are.) offered one of the principal cut-throats two hundred dollars to let him off—the Mexican agreed to it—the man (Prut) paid him the money and turned to go away, when the

miscreant shot him through the back.

At the battle of Taos, it happened several times that while an American would be raising his rifle to shoot one of the enemy when they were retreating, the cowardly wretch would fall on his knees and beg for mercy; the American would lower his rifle; this was no sooner done than the dastardly scoundrel would raise his gun and shoot his generous adversary. Such are the Mexicans-they are like their country,mean of the meanest. At the time the masacres took place at the Moro, there happened to be in the neighborhood about 150 men, sent out to guard trains of provisions, graze horses, &c., these were immediately concentrated by the late brave and lamented Captain Henley, (Mo. Volunteers,) the senior officer in that section. He was mortally wounded in an attack upon the townhis exasperated men soon afterwards level led the village to the ground and sent in well tasted water-melons; excellent banahere some 18 prisoners-about 15 of the enemy were killed.

Captain Burgwin of the Dragoons, who fell at Taos, was a native of North Carolina -he graduated at West Point in 1839, and at the time of his death was high up on the list of Captains. He was one of the most popular officers in the army, from his high toned, gentlemanly character. His conduct and courage in the late battles, are the theme of universal praise. After being wounded, Col Price rode up to him and told him that whether he recovered or not, he should bear testimony of his gallantry. Cartain B. replied, "I hope, Colonel, you will also bear witness that my company did its duty." Lieut. Van. Valkenburg, of the Infantry, died of his wounds in a few days -he had both jaws broken.

Captains Burgwin and Henley were buried a few days since, with military honors. Their graves occupy a picturesque spot under the guns of Fort Marcy.

You may inquire what are the prospects here for peace and tranquility in future What number and description of troops, &c. should be stationed here, &c.? I will state a few facts-two days since an express came in from Col Doniphan, at El Paso, stating that nothing had been heard of Gen. Wool's advance on Chihuahua-that there are many troops in Chihushua, &c. He has 900 men-he may be defeated, and if so we will have the force of two departments against us. These people cannot be depended upon-we have not more than 1,000 effective troops here. Infantry is the great arm for this country.

The winter here has been very cold, and about one in ten or twelve of the Volunteers have died here—the hill is covered with

THE GEORGIA REGIMENT.-We find in the Columbus Enquirer of Tuesday last, the following from Captain Calhoun.

ALVARADO, April 3rd, 1847. We arrived at this place on yesterday, after a most fatiguing march of four dayslaming many, and completely exhausting others. On the 2nd inst. arrangements for a battle were mide by Gen. Quitman; but the enemy if near at the time, made it convenient to be where they were not seen. This place has been garrisoned by a thousand Mexican soldiers; but on our approach, The dragoons reached the wall first, and both sides of the river, and one on the westimmediately jumped over, and rushed to the ern side of the city These forts are either dichurch. Here it was that this company rected by piling up bags filled with sand, was exposed to a most murderous fire from or dug out of the banks, and answer the ends designed most admirably. About noon of houses, and from the corners. Here it was the 2nd inst., information was received by us to the effect that the city was being evacuated; and General Quirman, with a few dragoons, hurried on and reach it late at night, where he found Commmodore Perry, ceived from Europe tifteen days later. The who had preceded him some thirty minutes. When the Brigade, consisting of the Alabama, South Carolina and Georgia Regiments, reached this point, our boasted flag floated over the most beautiful little city we have as yet seen in Mexico. The few citizens who remained were greatly alarmed; but their fears and apprehensions were soon quieted. The Alcade was called upon to furnish quarters for our little army, which was soon accomplished by a selection of public buldings and houses vacated by those who had fled from the city. Those assigned to a few of us were not quite satisfactory to our fastidiousness-to gentlemen who had been in the woods for ten months .-Captan Shelton and myself called upon the Alcade and desired to know whether he could inform us if we could, find rooms in which we might be rendered conformable. He immediately pointed out to us several that were locked up, and authorized us to force an entry. I replied at once, soone than do violene to the doors, or injure private property in the slightest particular, we would sleep in the streets. Whereupon, a fine, manly and intelligent looking Mexican touched the Alcade upon the shoulder, and authorized him to make a tender of his " Cassa"—and we are inhabiting a princely establishment, with all necessary conveniences attached, with bathing rooms, and beautiful Canaries and other birds, and with a mint bed that would gratify Dr. Hoswell's Virginia pride; and we are preparing to dine to-day upon fish and fowl-a circumstance that is unfrequent in its occurrence

To-morrow we leave on our return to Vera Cruz. We are consequently very busy in preparing our four days provisions for the march. The return has this advantage over our approach, the wells then dug will save us much labor, after fatiguing marches.

Adjount Hervey, to whom we are under many obligations for the obliging manner

in weich he discharges the various dutie 8 assigned to him, is making necessary arrangements to send our sick and lame to Vera Cruz by the steamship McKim. am happy to say, not one of our Georgia friends are sick at this place; but a great number of sore leet are complained of. Our march was on the beach, the sand deep and heavy, and the water very bad.

In coming to this place we have been much disappointed, for really, many of us had expected to see and feel a fight.

If no change of purpose is wrought before we return to Vera Cruz, we do not expect to rest there more than a day or two before we are to be off for Jalapa, about 70 miles west; a most delightful and salubrious region-and to which place I am anxious to hurry. It is said to be, in truth, a land of flowers, fine vegatables and most beautiful fruit. We find at this place very large and nas, pine-apples, and various other fruits, to which we of the North are strangers.

The heat, at this time is excessive, exhausting and enfeebling. My room has been crowded all the time since I commenced this letter. One only, Licutenant Phillips has energy enough to read a newspaper. The adjutant sleeps like an innocent in a tocking chair, and our Major is

In another place, I ought to have said, quite a rich village, of two thousand inhabi tants, some eight miles distant, surrendered, and during the afternoon of yesterday was taken possess. of, and some public property seized As here, valuable field pieces and other munition were seized. But naughtofgreat value. The village alluded to is known as Tlaacotalpam-a name not easy of pronunciation to an American J S. C tongue,

BANNER. ChE



ABBEVILLE C. H., S. C. Wedne day, April 28, 1847.

#### Cotton Market.

Charleston April 21st from 10 3-8 to 11 7-8 Hamburg, April 21st, from 10 to 11 1-4

We are indebted to Mrs Moore, for a mess of Strawberries

Our citizens who are interested in cleaning out the branches around the village, are requested by the Council, to send their hands early to morrow morning. Those, we understand, who send hands will receive credit for so many days work upon

His Excellency the Governor, has appointed the 6th of May to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer for the signal triumph of our arms in Mexico, and that

State soon, and the citizens of Charleston, we perceive by the papers, are preparing to give him a worthy reception.

# Foreign News.

By steamer Cambria, news has been remost important item in it is the advance of cotton, American descriptions of all qualities have risen 1.4 penny perpound, and the great bulk of ordinary kinds 38 d.

The suffering by famine in Ireland Scotland, and on the continent, is unabated. Thousands are still emigrating to this country in consequence of the scarcity of provi-

# From Mexico.

We have received nothing of very great interest from Mexico since our last. The capture of Alvarado was a quiet affair, the garrison surrendered without offering to resist our troops : also a town some eight miles from it, containing about 2000 inhabitants. The army had not, at the latest dates, left Vera Cruz, for want of means to transport the baggage; as soon as these could be obtained, the line of march would be taken up for Jalapa, some seventy miles distant from Vera Cruz.

# The Rail Road.

We have been informed by a gentleman of this District, that a letter has been received from Colonel COLEMAN of Greenville, stating that the people of that District, are now disposed to aid in running the Road through this District, provided two hundred thousand dollars be subscribed by our citizens to the road. And it is suggested that a meeting be held on sale day next, at this place, to consider the matter, and give expression to the sentiments of the district upon this subject.

Two hundred thousand dollars, we believe. can be easily raised in our district for an en-

terprise so important as this. If the citizens of our district will rightly consider their own interest, they will now be up and doing, and especially those, in whose vicinity the road will pass if established. Should we let the opportunity slip, of securing this road through the district, we may not expect again to have it in our power

#### From the Army.

CITY OF VERA CRUZ, April 4th, 1847.

The stars and stripes are waving proudly over the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. It is unnecessa ry for me to say any thing about the bombardment of the city, as I have mailed, on yesterday three copies of the first number of the American Eagle published here, which will reach you by the time this does. and will give you a full account of the whole matter.

We have suffered considerably from the heat of the sun, and the clouds of sand during the Northers, but have had but little fighting to do. Our regiment, however, was engaged in the severest skirmish of any that occurred-Colonel Dicinson, wounded pretty severely in the right breast, is slowly recovering - the others, four or five in number, are all recovering -no one in our companywas hurt. We were in full view of the city during the ski mish, and they threw the bombs and can a n balls so thick and fast, that it required a sharp look out to dodge them; in fact, we have been exposed to their cannonading ever since we landed until the surrender of the place, and we have become so used to it, that we look upon the bursting of bombs as a mere matter of moonshine.

We will probably leave here for Jalapa in a few days, and would have been gone ere this, had it not been that we lacked mules to transport our baggage. Our regiment is now on an expedi ion to Alvarado, principa'ly for the purpose of capturing one thousand mules, said to be in the neighborhood of that place.

You may form some idea of the am unt of stores to be transported, when I tell you that there have been 300 waggons, five mule teams, employed for four days hau'ing baggage from the landing to the city, three miles, and are not yet done. We have a fine view of Orizaba, with its snow clad peak, and are extremely anxious to be on the march in that direction.

I received a letter from you dated 13 h Murch on yesterday: your letters have, I expect, generally arrived safe: they are sometimes a good while in getting here; but you need have no fears as to their reaching

CITY OF VERA CRUZ, April 4, 1847.

I saw your letter to ---- of date the 13th wrote you some days ago, and attempted to DANIEL WEBSTER, is to visit this give you a description of the far-famed city that bloodshed must follow. The p of Vera Cruz. I have just returned from an expedition to Antigua. Col. HARNEY. with his dragoons, one battalion of Infantry, and Capt. TAYLOR's battery of light artille. ry. together with your humble servant, were ordered to open the way, make discoveries, and capture mules &c. We were ordered to Antigua and reached there on Friday night about 2 o'clock, twenty-two miles from Vera Cruz after cutting our way the enemy. We took them by surprisethe dragoons and myself with them swam the river just opposite the town .-As soon as we struck the opposite bank, we jumpped off upon the gallop, and got to the barracks just as the Lincers were mounting in hot haste." There was one company of one hundred men, and out of that number we captured thirty horses with saddles, lances, and all ready for mounting -one 1st Lieutenant and ten men. The others scampered in every direction like a covey of flushed patridges. We pursued them but the enemy those not captured, had "lest the premises." We returned, saw the Alcalde, who gave us much information, Five miles off was Santa Anna's farm, where his son was with four hundred men: seven miles further was the National Bridge, where General La Vega, was fortifying and preparing to receive us. He gave us a fine supper, good lodgings, and in the morning dismissed us with the benedictions of himself and people. The Palmetto Regiment has gone under General Quirinan to Alvarado. Since we landed here, I have been detached from the Regiment. Assistant Quarter Masters are under the orders of the Department, and not permanently attached to any corps. I have been attached during the siege to the engineers, a very laborious position. I do not know what they will do with me next. I do not know what they will do not know what with the benedictions of himself and peo-

care what, so they do not leave me in Vers Cruz this summer, and I have been promised a position with the moving army. General QUITMAN's command has not returned from Alvarado-heard nothing from them-uncertain when we will leave here; we would have been gone, but for the want of transportation; almost all our mules died on the voyage here.

Antigua is an interesting place on account of its being the place Corres landed, and commenced building the first Vera Cruz: the very walls in heaps are still

#### The Battle of Buena Vista.

The following letter which we copy from the Yazoo Democrat, is from SAMUEL S. CALDWELL who is a native of this District, and raised in our village. When a boy, he met with a serious accident in the loss of three of his fingers by the bursting of a gun, which are now in the possession of Dr. I. Branch of this place. He is in the Mississippi Regiment, that so distinguished itself at the battle of Buena

Saltillo, Mexico, March 1st., 1847. DEAR BROTHER :- I received a letter from you on yesterday, which was the only one I have received from you or any one else since I came on this side of the " Big Drink." It gave me great ple sure to think that though a poor ragged soldier I was not orgotten. If people at home knew the sufferings of a soldier in Mexico, or how great a consolution to him it is to receive a letter from a friend or relative, they would certainly devote an hour or two occasionally in writing to him. But let this pass

Well, I have heard the big bull dogs howl and the small fice bark, seen the very elements rain copper and lead, and have also seen a fifty acre plain as thickly covered with dead and wounded men as is an old clearing with dead trees cut up for a log

ed with about 5,000 fighting men at the

pass on the road to San Luis 22 miles from

this place, called Agua Nueva, resting con-

On the 21st of February we were camp-

tented, when the picket and our spies came running in and informed Old Zack that the Mexican army, numbering from 20,000 to 25,000, with Santa Anna at its head, had advance I within 30 miles, and from appearance were going to march on against us. When our old general heard this he issued outers for us to hold ourselves in readiness to march towards Saltillo. No sooner said than done. We knew we had no time to lose, and in less than half an hour were on our road to this place. Our Regiment, May's Squadron and Thomas' and Bragg's batteries accompanied of ! Zack. We pitched our tents, raised our flags and and every man of us swore he would die before we would give up the city. Ceneral Wool took his position at a well known pass e Illed Buena Vista and stationed his command in such a position as to keep the enemy back if he should attempt to advance that night. We left one company of caval ult. This was the latest intelligence from ry at Agua Nueva to watch the enemy and Abbeville, and hence very interesting. I act as a pickett. Next morning at sun up which was the 21st, the picketts were hard to fire the alarm guns. We all knew, then, came into Gen. Wool's camp bringing information that the enemy were advancing rapidly and would not stop long at Agua Nueva as the advance guard had already passed it. Gen. Wool despatched an express post haste to Gen. Taylor, and by nine o'clock we were all on the ground we were to occupy, altho' we had to march 8 miles. We stood with silence at our posts until twenty-seven minutes past 3 o'clock in the evening when one of the bull dogs of the enemy was heard to growl. It soundthrough impediments thrown in the road by ed the death knell of some of the brave Kentucki ins Then the whole plain on our side of the line gave a cheer, but we did not get fairly into action that day. The Kentucky Riflemen who were stationed on the sides of the mountains on the left flank engaged in the sport. They held their positions until dark when all was hushed but a few rifles that were heard to erack and looked like lightening bugs illuminuting the tops of the mountains Our Regiment was ordered to cump, bue no sleep did we get that night. Express after

express arrived bringing us the news Next morning at sunrise we were on our way to the field of action. When we are rived there the enemy had broken through on our left flank, which caused us to hasten to repel him The Arkansas Regiment had commenced retreating helter shelter.-We met them and tried to incuce them to go back with us, but only 30 returned --They thought all was lost, but we charged on the yellow chaps and soon told them we were the Mississippi boys-they learned something of us at Monterey. Seeing uscharge on a body of not less than 8,000 they became panic stricken. Our Regiment' with the assistance of one battery and a